What is claimed is:

[1] A resin-coated powder material prepared by coating a resin onto a needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder.

[2] A resin-coated powder material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the resin is at least one organic resin selected from a silicone resin and a fluorocarbon resin.

[3] A resin-coated powder material as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder is a zinc oxide needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder.

[4] A resin-coated powder material as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder is in a three-dimensional shape having three or more needle-like crystal portions stretched in different directions from a core portion.

[5] A resin-coated powder material as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein a coating amount of the resin relative to the needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder is such that the resin is in the range of 0.001 to 50 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder.

[6] A coating composition prepared by mixing a needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder with a silicone resin coating

composition and/or fluorocarbon resin coating composition.

[7] A coating composition as claimed in claim 6, wherein the needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder is a zinc oxide needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder.

[8] A coating composition as claimed in claim 6 or 7, wherein the needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder is in a three-dimensional shape having three or more needle-like crystal portions stretched in different directions from a core portion.

[9] A water-repellent coating film-forming method, which comprises coating the coating composition as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 8 as a topcoat coating composition onto a substrate to form a water-repellent coating film.

[10] A water-repellent coating product having a topcoat water-repellent coating film formed by the water-repellent coating film-forming method as claimed in claim 9.

[11] A substrate surface-modifying method, which comprises coating an inorganic powder dispersion containing, as essential components, a needle-like single crystal inorganic powder and a resin onto a substrate to impart water-repellency to the surface of the substrate.

[12] A substrate surface-modifying method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the substrate is a plastics substrate and/or inorganic substrate.

[13] A substrate surface-modifying method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder is a zinc oxide needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder.

[14] A substrate surface-modifying method as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein the needle-like single-crystal inorganic powder is in a three-dimensional shape having three or more needle-like crystal portions stretched in different directions from a core portion.

[15] A substrate surface-modifying method as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 14, wherein the resin used in the inorganic powder dispersion is a silicone resin and/or fluorocarbon resin.

[16] A substrate surface-modifying method as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 15, wherein the resin used in the inorganic powder dispersion is a curable resin.

[17] A substrate surface-modifying method as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 16, wherein the plastics substrate or the inorganic substrate is composed of a curable resin coating

film.

[18] A substrate surface-modifying method as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 17, wherein the curable resin coating film prior to coating the inorganic powder dispersion is an uncured coating film, and the uncured coating film is cured after coating the inorganic powder dispersion.

[19] A substrate surface-modifying method as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 18, wherein the resin used in the inorganic powder dispersion is a curable resin, the substrate is a curable resin coating film, which is an uncured coating film prior to coating the inorganic powder dispersion, and coating of the inorganic powder dispersion is followed by simultaneously curing the uncured curable resin coating film and the curable resin.

[20] A water-repellent coating product having a topcoat water-repellent coating film formed by the method as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 19.